

## Thinking Summer

*It's right around the corner!*

What do you do in Summer? | What do your friends do?

Can't afford to go a distance because of high fuel prices?

## Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont

has tons of great summer activities for young and young at heart!

Here's the one just for you!...

## Adult and Professional Development Adventures!

Great Smoky Mountains Institute is fast becoming the ultimate choice for adults who would like to immerse themselves in the Smokies. It's the perfect setting, the perfect playground, the perfect way to learn, the perfect way to develop professionally and still have a summer adventure! There is only one choice for residential adult programs in the Smokies - Tremont's Adult and Professional Development Programs. Please read below and choose the programs you are interested in. Never too young to learn, always a great time making new friends!

### June

11-16 **Smoky Mountain Science Teacher Institute** – This workshop is a collaboration between Tremont, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and Discover Life in America. Your instructors will include Tremont staff, NPS educators and scientists, and other scientists involved in research in the park. Throughout the week, we will visit different Smokies habitats to learn about their amazing natural resources as well as the environmental problems threatening them. Each day you will become a citizen scientist for the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory, helping to inventory and monitor everything from salamanders to slime molds. Increase your own science skills and discover new ways to do the same for your students. Program lasts from Sunday supper through Friday lunch. Call 865-448-6709 for information.

### JULY

««Don't let the title fool you – If you have any interest in nature at all, you are a naturalist – Come. Learn more!»»

10-15 **Naturalist and Educator Week** – It's just one of those magic weeks that becomes a benchmark in your life. It's a time to slow down, to focus on natural history, science, and the vast biological riches that exist in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Spend the week increasing your knowledge through educational workshops, field studies, hikes, and participation in research that will benefit the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory. We are honored to have **Bill Lee** as this year's feature presenter. Bill combines the study of nature and drawing, painting, and writing as a means of connecting both herself and her students with the environment. Program lasts from Monday supper to Saturday lunch.

10-15 **Naturalist Hiking Week** – Each day of Naturalist Hiking Week features three hike choices led by experienced educators who offer insight into the wonders of the National Park. Participants must be in good physical condition and be able to hike 6-14 miles a day in rugged mountainous terrain. Participants also have the opportunity to take a "day off" and choose from Naturalist Week activities. Share the evenings with Naturalist Week participants, and enjoy special speakers, night hikes, and more! Program lasts from Monday supper to Saturday lunch.

### September

22-24 **Le Conte Overnight Trip II** – Head to the top of the Smokies and spend the night at LeConte Lodge, the highest elevation lodge in the eastern United States. Friday evening will be spent at Tremont, and then we'll head up the mountain the following morning. Along the way, our educational staff will share their knowledge of natural history, high elevation ecology, and science. While at the top, you will enjoy spectacular views, hearty meals, and a cozy bed. The trails are steep and rocky and range from 5 to 8 miles one way. Program lasts from Friday supper to Sunday late lunch.

29-Oct 1 **Teacher Escape Weekend** – Teachers who bring school groups to Tremont are invited to join together to share knowledge and experiences of making the most of your

school's visit. Learn ways to prepare your students, help students get the most from their experience and bring the lessons back to the classroom. All of this while enjoying a beautiful fall weekend in the Smokies. There are wonderful opportunities for first time teachers to get to know the program as well as for returning teachers to share ideas, experiences and further their knowledge. Teacher Escape Weekend lasts from Friday supper to Sunday lunch. Let us take you away from your classroom and into 500,00 acres of one of nature's most beautiful and inspiring classrooms. Cost: FREE with your schools scheduled attendance

## **Join us in Fall and drink in the splendid colors...**

### **October**

15-20 **Fall Elderhostel Hike** – Discover the beauty of fall in the most rugged mountains in Appalachia! Daily hikes of 5 to 13 miles bring you into contact with the varied plant life, sparkling mountain streams and breathtaking mountain vistas of this ancient mountain chain. Wildflowers, rushing water, and the multicolored season all combine to make this an unforgettable experience. In the evenings, enjoy a fine meal at the Institute followed by Appalachian music and stories or educational sessions. Program lasts from Sunday supper through Friday breakfast. Program lasts from Sunday supper through Friday.

20-22 **Women's Backpacking Trip** – Great vistas, fall foliage, and old growth forests characterize this backpacking trip. Expect challenging but rewarding hiking along Gabes Mountain, Maddron Bald, and Snake Den Ridge Trails. as you hike, you'll be amazed at the striking color of the leaves and the incredible views. You'll be fascinated by the mountains and the diversity of life all around. Although the hike has been challenging, you've learned so much about the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, not to mention all the great backpacking skills you've picked up. What an unforgettable experience it has been to venture into the backcountry on this "women only" trip.

20-23 **Autumn Photography Workshop** – What better place to improve your photography skills than in the Smokies during the peak of fall leaf color? Join us for the weekend as photographer Willard Clay shares the splendors of fall in the Smokies. Field sessions and lectures will cover the use of light, composition, landscape photography, close-ups, and how to find the "right" picture. An emphasis will be placed on digital photography, however all formats are welcome. The program will combine natural history interpretation with photographic technique and is designed for intermediate to professional photographers. Program lasts from Friday supper to Monday mid-morning.

27-29 **Fall Naturalist Weekend** – Autumn is a magical time of color and change in the "Place of Blue Smoke." Spend a weekend studying the natural and cultural history of the park. Learn about the natural world through the study of black bears, fungi, trees, or a smidgen of everything. A choice of four workshops give you the opportunity to learn from people that love the Smokies and natural history. Many instructors are scientists and researchers with expertise in their fields of study. Join us for a weekend of exploration and discovery in which your days will be filled with learning and your evenings with great lectures and entertainment. Program lasts from Friday supper to Sunday lunch.

27-29 **Fall Adult Backpacking Trip** – Grassy Balds Galore! This great fall route will take you from Cades Cove back to Tremont. Along the way you will pass through Russell Field and Spence Field, two great locations for great views of foliage and mountain vistas.

### **November**

10-12 **Tracking and Nature Observation** – Spend a weekend developing your skills to recognize and interpret the clues left behind by the wide variety of creatures that live in the Smoky Mountains. Explore animal sign, stalking and movement techniques, and nature awareness and observation skills. Much of the time will be spent exploring the park and interpreting what we find. Instructor Wanda DeWaard, who has been sharing tracking skills since 1983, will be joined by several guest presenters. Program lasts from Friday supper to Sunday lunch.

10-12 **Adult Fly Fishing Workshop** – Have you ever watched "A River Runs Through It" and thought, "I want to do that?" Well here is your chance. This introductory program will give you all the basic information and skills you need to confidently approach the wonderful sport of fly fishing both in the Smokies and at home. All aspects of the trout and the streams in which they live will be covered. Information about rods, lines, flies, basic equipment, care and safety on the stream, wading, and basic trout biology will be covered. You will leave with a great sense of appreciation for the value of trout and cold water resources.

10-12 **Geology of the Smokies** – Join us for a journey back in geologic time. Led by Scott Southworth of the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston, VA, this exciting weekend adventure consists of informal talks and hikes throughout Great Smoky Mountains National Park. We will investigate the park's different geologic aspects as well as discuss the billion year old history of the rocks of the Smokies, with emphasis on the processes that are unique to this region. We will discuss and examine igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks exposed within the park, and geologic structures like folds and faults that illustrate its complex tectonic history. We'll relate the rocks to the biological world and environmental concerns in the park. Program lasts from Friday supper to Sunday lunch.

For more information please visit our web site [www.gsmit.org](http://www.gsmit.org) or call and register today! 865-448-6709.

Just down the road there's a forest full of adventure!  
**Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont**  
*...connecting people and nature*

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**Kent Jones | Public Relations | Development Assistant**  
**Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont**

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Our Mission: Connecting people and nature through in-depth programs designed to nurture an appreciation of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, celebrate diversity, and foster stewardship.

Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont has been connecting people and nature for over 35 years!

More information regarding GSMIT can be found by pointing your browser to: [<http://www.gsmit.org>](http://www.gsmit.org)

Contacting us by US Mail:

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Contact us by phone: 865-448-6709

by fax: 865-448-9250

Contact Public Relations: [Kent@gsmit.org](mailto:Kent@gsmit.org)

PR Office: 865-448-9732, x23

This e-mail is generated in kind to those who participate in our programs or who expressed interest in receiving information on educational programming in the Smokies: Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont (GSMIT).

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